

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1880,

Amusements To-day. Academy of Music-Lucia di Lammermor Abberts Park Theatre-The Legion of Honor.

Bijan Opera House-Lawn Tenals.

Booth's Treatre-Haule.

Bunnell's Venerals.-Carbeides.

Chickering Hell-Passon Clay. Haverly's toth Mr. Theatre Blaustha Maverly's 5th Av. Theatre-Ingenty Haverly's lith Av. Theatre—Ingener, Haverly's Nihlo's Ganden-Colonel Mattails, Konter & Hind's Convert Hall-Convert Hadiwan Square Theatre—Itaal Kirks, Hanonic Temple—Memerica, Hetropolities Convert Hall-Helicer Pair, Middleton's Dime Nuseum—31 Sewery. San Francisco Minstrels—Brosdway and 19th st. San Francisco Ministele Broadway and First Standard Theater—Matthings Thentre Comique—Muligan Guarde Nominee, Tony Pantar's Theater—Variety, Matinee, Union Squares Theater—The Banker's Daughter Wallack's Theater—The Gur'nor,

Organization of the Democracy. Saith the Evening Post:

Winds r Theatre-East Lyons.

"We therefore venture to surgest to our exteemed sontemporaries, the Mershi and Tax Sys - just now in an agony of enthusiasm over the reconstruction of their party in this city—that while organization is a good thing, there may be too much of st." Our esteemed contemporary is in error in

speaking of The Sun as being in " an agony of enthusiasm." THE SUN does not go into agonies of any kind. It is not in that line. Now, as to organization, we fully agree with the Evening Post that there may be too much of it. We do not approve of any such organization as Tammany Hall or Irving Hall. We are opposed to the incorporation of political organizations. Tammany Hall has long been, in effect, an established government of the city of New York, in contra-

vention of the legal, chartered Government. The kind of organization and the only kind that we advocate is the voluntary association of people who think substantially alike in political matters, so far systematized as to insure the true expression of the real sentiment of the masses.

The Proposed Dissolution of the Tam many Corporation.

It is asserted that certain members of the corporation known as the Tammany Sostety, or Columbian Order, contemplate applying to the next Legislature for the appointment of a committee to inquire whether the corporation has violated its charter, and ought therefore to be dissolved. As recent events have shown that the long-standing bargain between the Tammany Democrats and Stalwart Republicans has come to an end, and as the country Democracy are disgusted with the course pursued by the former at the last two general elections, such a committee could no doubt be easily raised at Albany. But it would be needless for accomplishing the object in view; and, moreover, it would engender strife, and might even produce cor-

ruption. The Tammany Society, or Columbian Order, exists by virtue of the laws of New York. The corporation consists of some 500 members. If a majority of those members desire a voluntary dissolution of the corporation, the laws of the State afford easy methods for reaching that result. If the corporation has violated its charter, or incurred certain specified penalties, a single stockholder or creditor may initiate proceedings in the courts for terminating its existence. It is alleged that the society has done many things which warrant its dissolution by the judiciary. However this may be, its members had better avoid coercive methods for closing its career. They would arouse bad blood and involve unprofitable expenditures. A calm, peaceful departure from the theatre of action, by voluntary instrumentalities, would be more becoming and less costly.

By passing quietly away, the Tammany corporation would relieve the Democracy of Liberal party, because it is based upon the agreeable and upprofitable controversy. One of the historians of the society says that the institution takes its name from the celebrated Indian chief Tammany, whose attachment to duty was greater than his love of life." Let the society emulate the example of its patron saint. Let it but an end to its troubled existence in a digwified way, and so make it impossible in the future for any political faction to use and abuse the

heroic name it bears. No loss to the stockholders need result from the dissolution of the corporation. Its imposing building in Fourteenth street could be sold for a handsome sum, and the net proceeds divided among the members; and under new auspices, it would rival the Academy of Music, Steinway Hall, and the Cooper Institute as a convenient place for large assemblies to listen to celebrated orators. As to its ancient baubles, which some esteem so highly, they could be approprintely disposed of at once. The graven Indian over the portal might be purchased by Mr. BARNUM and exhibited as the lineal descendant of the original Tammany chief. while the tattered regalia of the sachems sould be forwarded to SITTING BULL as Christmas presents.

How the British Metropolis is Governed.

One of the questions certain to come up and controlling the water supply of London. At present there is no central board want of comprehensiveness and unity in tion collected in the valley of the Thames. other great cities of Europe and of America are legal municipalities. Paris and Berlin, like New York, have their Municipal Councils, but the 4,000,000 inhabitants comprised in the British metropolis have nothing of the sort. Only by a general police system, a centralized supervision of schools and of the poor, and a soterests which results from contiguity of residence been recognized by law.

The history of the Metropolitan Board of the Kinetecuth Century. This body has years, and seems to have perfermed with efficiency and economy its specific duties, namely, the regulation of sewerage and the making of thoroughfares in the metropolis. sonable time, the most extensive and elaborate scheme of arterial drainage which the the way of opening new avenues and widening overcrowded streets, though its performances in this respect cannot for a moment be compared with those of Baron HAUSSMANN, in the French capital. One of its achievements, however, the northern embankment of the Thames, is

during the present century. But although the action of this Board has, on the whole, given satisfaction, there is no disposition to give it additional powers, and the proposition, made two years ago, to increase its authority by enabling it to buy out the existing water companies, was rejected with signal unanimity. The jealousy with which this body is regarded is due apparently to the fact that its members are not elected immediately by the people. They are chosen by the vestries, or local councils, representing the thirty-six parishes (or intons of small parishes) into which, in 1855, the metropolis was divided for administrative purposes. If a new central board is created for the supervision of the water supply, the signs are that its members will be directly elected by the qualified voters. This will almost certainly be the case if the question is settled in the present Liberal Parliament, in which the desire to preserve and premote habits of self-government is especially active. The advocates of the centralizing process, which has of late been carried so far in England, are mainly to be

found in the Conservative party. With the police administration, the management of their public schools, or with sewerage and street improvement, the inhabitants of the British metropolis, or their direct representatives, have, as we have seen, nothing to do. In like manner the local guardians of the poor have been gradually deprived of all power over the administration of relief. In other respects, however, the whole business of municipal government devolves upon the thirty-six vestries above mentioned. These local councils, which may be regarded as primary schools of self-government, are intrusted in their several districts with the paving, cleaning, watering, and lighting of streets; with a supervision of house drainage and the repression of nuisances; with the inspection of bake houses, dairies, drinking fountains, common lodging houses, artisans' dwellings, baths, and wash houses, mortuaries, and places for disinfection of furniture or clothing; with the analysis of food, and the care of gardens and open spaces. The vestrymen possess no magisterial authority, nor have they any power of superintendence over the gas and water supply. For the fulfilment, however, of their specific duties, they may impose a tax on their respective parishes, according to a uniform standard of assessment, and they may also contract loans subject to the veto of the Metropolitan Board of Works. Last year the total outlay of the thirty-six vestries was about \$12,500,000, as against an expenditure of nearly \$17,000,000 by the Board of Works. The funded debt of the British metropolis, after deducting assets, has now reached about \$58,000,000.

There have been, of course, great differ-

ences in the efficiency with which the numerous local boards have discharged the functions reserved to them. Complaints have been especially rife respecting the neglect of sanitary inspection. On the whole, however, the London vestries seem to have done a vast amount of useful work, and to have trained up in their chief clerks, on whom most of the executive business fails, not a few men of real administrative ability. It was largely with a view of turning the experience of such men to better account that, under the last GLADSTONE administration, Mr. J. S. MILL introduced a bill to give the whole British metropolis a comprehensive system of self-government, modelled, to some extent, on that of Paris. He proposed to create a county of London, with a common council of 171 members, and 52 aldermen, in whose authority the powers of the present Board of Works and of the old corporation of the city of London should be merged. Within this county he proposed to create municipalities (corresponding to the Parisian mairies) for the ten cities and boroughs that make up the metropolis, which should divide with the new central power the business of local government. For the time this scheme succumbed to the opposition of vested interests; but it is strongly commended to the principle of confiding municipal administra tion, not to appointees of the Crown, or to men chosen by an intermediate body, but to the direct representatives of the people. There is reason to believe that Mr. MILL's plan, or some modification of it, will be brought forward at the next session of Parliament, and that a county of London, comprehending ten municipal units, may be ultimately accepted as the best solution of the metropolitan problem. It will searcely be urged, even by opponents of such a measure, that the inhabitant of London is less competent to discharge the duties of self-government than the citizen of Paris.

A Library That Is Needed.

We have in New York no great free popular library, one, for instance, which resembles and bears comparison with the famous Public Library of Boston. The Boston library is now the largest in the country, with the exception of the Library of Congress at Washington, and in the number of its books it ranks with the chief libraries of the world.

That library is almost wholly supported by the city of Boston, though it has received large gifts and legacies from publicspirited individuals. It is free to every citizen of Boston and to his family, and its books may be consulted within the building or taken home. As a free circulating at the coming session of Parliament will be library, therefore, it has its chief imporconcerned with the method of improving | tance. It stands in that respect at the head of the public libraries of the world. And yet, while its books are in the hands or council authorized to take action in such | and at the homes of the people of the city a matter, and this fact exhibits the striking generally, of boys and girls as well as adults, the annual reports show that an the government of the vast urban popula- | exceedingly small number are stolen, lost, or destroyed during any year. This proves that it is possible to maintain a free circulating library on a large scale, and that the people will avail themselves of its priv-

Heges without abusing them. In New York our greatest public library is for reference only. The two institutions which have the most valuable collection of books are the Astor and the Lenox. Whatcalled Board of Works, whose functions are | ever may be its public value in the future, strictly limited, has the community of in- the Lenox has not yet opened its shelves to the people of New York. As to the Astor, the hours during which access to the books is permitted are enough of themselves to of Works is discussed in the latest number | shut the great mass of readers out, it is rather a library for students, for men of now been in existence for some twenty-five leisure, and for specialists than for the av-

erage run of people. The most frequented library in New York is that of the Cooper Union, its reading room, with periodicals, affording the It undertock, and completed within a rea- chief attraction. Never was it so crowded as this winter. As far as it goes, for the collection of books is comparaworld has seen. It has done a good deal in tively small, it supplies a great want. The Young Men's Christian Association has a small number of books whose use is limited; and though a year or two ago a large sum of money was bequeathed to it for library purposes, we do not hear yet of the application of the fund. The Society Library is an old institution, which lends unquestionably more imposing than any books to holders of its shares and to others

volumes on its shelves, and is very respectable, but it is rather declining than advancing in favor, and is not by any means managed in an collightened spirit. The Apprentices' Library contains about 50,000 volumes, and is a lending library also, free to apprentices, but open to others only upon the payment of small annual dues. The Mercantile Library has accumulated a very great number of volumes, which have been selected with special reference to meeting average tastes. As the annual tax is small, it is a larger lender of books, chiefly of fiction, than any other library in the city. There are other good libraries here, but their privileges can be enjoyed by only a limited number of persons who have paid the price

of membership. The increasing demands upon libraries of various other kinds which we do possess illustrate the necessity of a great free circulating library in New York. A library of reference, like the Astor Library, does not meet the want. Neither does that of the Cooper Union, while the Mercantile Library is open only to those who pay.

To supply this deficiency, the New York Free Circulating Library was incorporated last March. It originated with a few women, and has been started on a limited scale, asking no help from the city, and relying on individual subscriptions from citizens to defray its expenses. Already the library has collected nearly four thousand books, of which about one-half have been gifts. Though nothing has been done to force the institution into public notice, the number of applicants for books has steadily increased. On the first of November it reached 2,751. From March 1 to Nov. 1, 22,558 volumes were given out, and only two of them were lostan exceptionally small proportion.

This library is managed with the greatest economy by trustees of high character. In that respect it commends itself to the confidence of citizens who properly appreciate the moral and intellectual benefit which will result from its enlargement to proportions commensurate with the need. It ought

to receive many and munificent donations. The Boston Public Library has grown to Its present dimensions in the short period since 1858, and it had its origin in a gift by JOSHUA BATES of fifty thousand dollars for the purchase of books. Starting with about ten thousand volumes, it has now more than two hundred thousand, and about half that number of pamphiets.

Imprisonment for Debt.

It is to be hoped that the Legislature of this State will appoint a committee of investigation to ascertain to what extent imprisonment for debt exists in this State at the present day.

It is generally supposed that imprisonment for debt has been abolished in the State of New York. In practice this is not true. A large number of persons are constantly imprisoned in this city for debt.

There should be a thorough investigation and a full report on the subject. Such a committee as we indicate should be appointed at the beginning of the session.

Each House of Congress took a ten-minute ecess yesterday to welcome Gen. GRANT. In the Senate, Mr. MAXEY proposed that Gen. ORD, in going on the retired list, should have the rank and pay of Major-General. A futile effort was made to reach a vote on the Educational bill, which is developing attractions for debaters. The House passed a joint resolution for a two weeks' holiday recess. The Pension bill appropriating fifty millions was passed, the debate upon it bringing out the fact that the Pension Arrearages bill will cost the Treasury \$241,000,000. Mr. BLAND proposed to amend the Funding bill so as to provide to pay the interest on the bonds, and pay them when maturing, in silver dollars. Mr. Moston proposed an inquiry into the alleged sale of uncarned land grants by the Northern Pacific and Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Companies.

A quarter of a billion of dollars seems to be, in round numbers, the latest estimate made by one Congressman of what the arrearage of pensions, voted by Congress, will cost the country. When the bill was passed, its friends d that it would only take twenty millions out of the Treasury, while even its strongest opponents only anticipated its costing a hundred and twenty millions. It is to be hoped that there is some miscalculation in regard to the incredible amount new attributed to it. It was possible to frame a perfectly fair measure. making a just appropriation for arrears of pensions, but so restricting the operation of what was really a gratuity as not to swamp the Treasury. But Congress passed instead a blind and sweeping measure which neither House had the courage to reject, nor HAYES the courage to veto.

The Yorktown Centennial Association in cludes some enthusiasts and they have arranged a programme for next October's ceremonies lasting twenty-five days. What can possibly be found to entertain anybody for twenty-five successive nights and days in that historic but out-of-the-way place? Philadelphia had a great industrial fair to reward the attention of visitors; but Yorktown proposes nothing of that sort. The corner stone of a monument will be laid, but that will only take a day, and there will be even then no monument to see. It is true that it is proposed to "give each State a day," if it wants one, but that does not alter the fact of excessive dilution. Why should each State want a day, and what would each Siate do with a day? By taking things very deliberately, enough exercises might be oncocted to last about three days; but twentyfive is certainly a large allowance for a village having so few intrinsic resources. Of course there will always be side shows of one kind or another bearing no relation to the event commemorated; but it really seems as if some con densation ought to be effected in the profuse programme. Is it seriously threatened to give as a celebration, twenty five days of oratory?

The latest rumor is that HAYES, before getting out, will ask the Senate to make W. K. ROGERS a paymester in the army. That is a rather prosaic berth for a poet, but the pay is good, and W. K. Rogens can remember for his consolation that CHAUCER was a Comptroller of the Customs; that MILTON was Latin Secretary to the Council of State at £300 year, and had his salary cut down one-half at that; that John Dayben vainly begged Lord Rochesten for some small employment in the Customs or Excise; that JOSEPH ADDISON Was a Commissioner of Appeal of the Excise before he became a Secretary of State; that Marritew Phion, at one stage in his official career, had to deal with humdreaccounts as a Commissioner of Trade; and, not to cite other illustrious precedents, that Ronnur Bunns was an Exciseman.

Besides, even army paymenters have their hours of leisure, and in these W. K. RODER will be able to pipe his gentle lays to the rude men of war around him. Perhaps it may soften heir rugged natures.

The two complaints made by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children against the discipline in the public schools of the city are worth the attention of the Board of Education. One is that children are kept from their meals, as a punishment for some triffing nfraction of school rules, or perhaps for failure to know their lessons; the other is that a needless degree of quiet is insisted on at times. aubjecting very young children to a strain o nervous dread during prolonged periods, lest they make the alightest noise or motion. The former complaint touches a practice which, where it exists, is wholly indefensible, and should procure the punishment of the teacher single improvement accomplished in Paris | upon the payment of dues. It has many | instead of the taught. The latter is more diffi-

cult of adjustment, as the matter is one of degree, and deals with the old question of well-meaning martinetism as opposed to common sense. Slavish fidelity to general rules of order and quiet sometimes bars the exercise of s

which the teachers have under their charge. Some people think that Congress has not done much, so far. They probably do not know that it has passed a bill completely changing the name of the yacht Nettie to Nokomis.

reasonable discretion in departing from these

rules for the good of the little communities

To one of the so-called society newspapers of London an interesting aspect of the great struggle for land and liberty in Ireland is that, as the Coldstream Guards are sent to Dublin, "doubtless the fair dwellers on the banks of the Liffey will rejoice more than the officers themselves; but we must hope to see them at the end of their campaign with hearts unscathed by bullets or blue eyes." Thus there is more than one way of looking on the great events of the day.

It is time for the discovery of another comet. So far this year the astronomers have picked up a comet or two with every change of season. The winter comet ought to be annonneed before Christmas, and it ought to be a big one. There is no longer any hope that any of the comets of 1880, so far discovered, will be visible to the naked eye. Cometentching has become a more popular occupation in the observatories than asteroid hunting. The latter seems to have almost gone out of fashion. The makers of astronomical instruments are quick patrons, and they are now bending their energles to the improvement of comet seekers. An Austrian has invented a very peculiar tele-scope of this kind, and he hopes to be able o make a comet seeker forty feet long.

When the Sultan said he was glad to see Minister Longstreet, he may have meant it. It must be at least interesting to the Commander of the Faithful to have one diplomatic representative of a great power around the prem-ises who will neither bother about the execution of the Berlin treaty nor deliver lectures on the propriety of paying interest on one's debts.

The unusual cordiality and enthusiasm of the reception given to the French Minister on his recent arrival in the city of Mexico seems to have provoked criticism from even the local journals, on the ground that no other Ministers of foreign powers were ever so profusely wel-But, after all, it seems to be the old story of the lost sheep and the ninety-and-nine that went not astray. Diplomatic relations with Prance had been so long suspended that there was naturally extra joy over their resumption.

Favoritism in the Army and Navy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- Gen. HAZEN'S nomnation for Chief Signal Officer continues to excite much comment. No one claims that he has any special qualifications for the office, and his bad record as an officer is not questioned, except by his intimates. The nomination is regarded as a conspicuous example of the favoritism shown in army and navy appointments. It has long been known that these appointments go by favor. To secure advancement an officer must either be related to an influential family or else marry into one. This favoritism and exercise of family and social influence explains some of Hayes's modifications of the plains some of Hayes's modifications of the fludings of courts martial. It is said that even in countries where there are families of rank favoritism does not proportionately prevail to a greater degree. Hagen has long been under a cloud, at least outside of circles where social and family influence does not protect him. Yet he lease at a bound over the heads of meritorious officers, and becomes a Brigadier-General. There is no doubt at all about the reason. He is the son-in-law of Mr. Wash. McLean of Ohio. That fact will make his confirmation sure. Then there is the case of Gen. Miles. He is said to have been a brave soldler, but no one claims that he is more so than others till recently of equal rank with himself. The deneral of the Army is his uncle by marriage, and so is the Secretary of the Treasury. Gen. Miles has been nominated as Brigadier-General to fil the vacancy caused by the retiring of Gen. Ord. There is little doubt that the retirement of Gen. Ord was forced. Of his own accord he would not have asked it. But if it was thought necessary to retire somehody in order to broomet Gen. Miles, the surprise is that Gen. McDowell was not retired. He is an older man than Ord. The reason is regarded as plain when we remember Gen. McDowell's trip from the Pacific to New York and his ortentatious announcement of his purpose to vote for Garfield. This system of favoritism reaches way down to the lowest offices, and it is now said that Hayes will provide his secretary, the poet Rogers, with a life office, by appointing him Paymaster in the army. fladings of courts martial. It is said that even

Book Notes.

Messrs, D. Appleton & Co. have published two terant holiday volumes on "English Painters" and "American Painters." They are illustrated with wool gravings of many notable pictures. An attractive book is the "Stately Homes of Regland" by L. Jewett and S. C. Hall dl. Worthington). It describes some of the most celebrated castles and country houses, and gives pictures of buildings, ground plans, interior opartments, gardens, and scenery. The prize Christmas cards published by Prang & Co. ef

The Uncharttable Opinion of a Prominent Eastern Democrat.

Boston are very handsome.

"A considerable portion of our Democratic mbers of Congress would aid Republicans in robbing a en roost, and if it wasn't for Tax Ses to hold them u before the people, they might even steal the Government

Election Officers to be Paid.

United States Marshal Payn announces that e payment of the supervisors of election will be begun a Monday next. The hours of paying will be between ? and 7 o'clock P. M. The supervisors for the first six A could district, inclusive, will be paid on Monday, and he others in the following order Tousday, seventh to truckly District, inclusive. Wednesday, Seventh to Euclidean Heirrict, inclusive. Those hat paid on the fact from the Heirrict, inclusive. Those hat paid on the fact many factors that the many between the 27th mat, and Jan. 31, when the accounts will be closed.

\$1,000 for Being Wrongfully Arrested. Edward Wild, who on May 3 was arrested

poins charge of tapping the till in Stewart's grocery at ergen street and Fifth agence. Brooklen recovered a reflect for \$1.90 damages in the Brooklen city/cort restrictly in a sait against M. Stewart for note impos-iment. The pric nor proved that the only reason for its arrest was that he was in the vicinity when the slatery was committed.

Robert H. Shannon and Jefferson M. Levy ged the Board of Apper Genment yesterday not to reduc e appropriation of \$50,000 in the financial budget of Set for keeping in repair the roads in the Twenty shird in Twenty fourth Wards. The librate will, in Saturday, hear to resentatives of the salight companies in relation to an increase at the rice lorgast to be furnished to the erg next year.

Our Immense Exports.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.-The annual report of to eph Nimms, Jr., Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, on the foreign commerce of the United States was cometed to-day. In regard to our export trade Mr. Nimino says. The five bearing articles of expert trade Mr. Similar vectoristic June 20, 18 at were at todayest firead and bread-units. \$280,000,831, readen. a minimal ferrorest breads and bread-units. \$280,000,832, readen. a minimal colors \$2.15,000,000, provises \$227,000,212, mineral colors \$4, 218,000, todayes and unumberlines of \$18,142,222 for the country in the magnitude of its experts with of bread-units and provises.

Prospect of the Funding Bill.

WASHINGTON, Doc. 16,-Mr. Wood still hopes o reach and pass the Funding bill before the heliday r ces. It is quite likely that the Appropriations Come will give bim the opportunity to do so. Mr. Wood as arged them not to autogomies his bill so as to put its consideration over to 1981, and he greatly desired to have consideration restored to lay. He has exertal investmented the members, both on the Bost and in private, that the sixes of 1981 will fall due dant. I suit, there is not been supported by the sixes of 1981 will fall due dant. I suit, there is not been considered by the six and Means Committee to K for. A g of many private, the pate of interest or thanker to experiment in private the pate of interest or the Nr Wood will by to have consideration resumed to day.

Immigration to Louislana,

New ORLEANS, La., Dec. 16, -The steamship scinits, from Pacrine, brought 210 minigrants, most of whem will go to plantations in this State.

The Fleventh Regiment Fair.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Allow me as a member of the Eleventh Regiment to respond to Messra. L. N. Prevost, Seventy-first Regiment, Charles Haldwin, and others, in regard to their note in today's

Hithese gentlemen had read the dairy newspapers they would have seen that the fire admission to the far had been suspended for the last two days.

However, they can get their money back by calling on the undersamed at the armory ou Monday evening, the 20th inst. siler 8 ciclek.

Lim M. Mayse.

Quartermaster Bergeant E Co., Eleventh Regiment, N. G. Y. Y. Dec. 14.

THE DEVELOPMENTS OF LIFE WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 13 .- Hayes has suddenly become very loving toward Grant. In view of the neglect of common courtesy to him on previous occasions, this demonstration provokes comment. When Hayes came to Washington in 1877, Grant, then being President, entertained him and his family liberally. After Hayes became Fraudulent President the extent of his hospitality to Grant was a cold water lunch, which did not suit the General's palate, who was then on the eye of crossing the ocean o visit the crowned heads of the Oid World, and to learn their ways of running Governments.

Upon returning from Europe, Grant came to Washington again, and this time he did not get even the cold water lunch, which, to speak truly, he was glad to be spared. Now, on the third visit, when he is not in want of a dinner, and is the guest of Ned Beale, who knows his tastes, and caters to them abundantly. Hayes recklessly incurs the expense of a dinner of twenty covers, exclusive of lemonade and cold tea, in order to make up for past deficiencies. Having recommended him for Captain-Gen-eral, and dired him at the cost of the contin-

gent fund. Hayes claims to have done the handsome thing by Grant, and thinks himself entitled to be enrolled with the Stalwarts. He does not see why Conkling should not visit the White House, and express regret for his violent course in sustaining Arthur, Cornell, and the moieties.

Grant has had a good time during his short stay at the capital of the nation, as he delights to call it. The dinner of abstinence at the White House was a passing relief. He has grown stouter and more stolid-looking than ever. His cheeks, puffed out with strong cheer,

glow in all the delicate hues of a boiled lobster. The thing which has astonished Washington most is the price paid by Lesseps for Ancient Mariner Thompson as Chairman of the American branch of the huge speculation called the Panama Canal. Just think of Dick Thompsons from Adam's time down, compressed together, would not sell for half the money in any market where the breed is known. The figures are appalling, and no wonder the old sea dog was so anxious to get hold of the chance that his letter of resignation is actually ante-dated.

It is not long ago that Dick Thompson was a candidate for local Judge in Indians, with a salary of \$1,500 a year. The people refused to elect him, because he was not considered fit for the place. Subsequently, when without practice at the bar and an idler, family influence and begging procured him the attorneyship of the Indiananolia and Terre Haute Railroad, about seventy-five miles long. He was in that office when Hayes, recalling a speech he bad heard Thompson make for Gen. Harrison forty years ago, invited him to run the remains of the navy.

The railroad company had a thanksgiving when the Old Man of the Sea got off its shoulders, and sent resolutions of gratitude to Hayes for the relief. And now prayers are offered in all the churches of Terre Haute that the Panama bubble may float, that Lesseps may keep Thompson, and that Thompson may floarish at the expense of the European idiots.

There is mourning at the departure of the Ancient Mariner among one set of officers of the navy. They had seen the happy effects produced in the department by liberal presents gathered in foreign travel. According to the family story, the supplies of luxuries of many kinds will not be exhausted when the epitaph of this illustrious salor of the Wabash shall have been written by a grateful republic. But what is to become of the Admirals, Commodores, Captains, and Lieutenans, who, looking, forward to promotion and to nice posts, had put in their "voluntary contributions," and are now let out in the cold, without even a class of a skip load of wines, eigars, objects of art, and lots of fine most is the price paid by Lesseps for Ancient Mariner Thompson as Chairman of the Ameri-

GEO, M. TIBRETS'S MILLIONS.

One Will Out of Several Selected for Probate, and that May be Contested, TROY, Dec. 15 .- George M. Tibbets of this city died in 1878, leaving an estate valued at between three and five millions. He left several wills, making different distributions of his property. The heirs have been at loggerheads, and until Monday last no definite steps had been taken to probate any of the wills. On that day a stipulation was made by counse. that any a stipulation was made by counsel that a will bearing date of May 8, 1877, be proved, but reserving the right of any of the heirs to reopen the probate, provided a contest is made within one year from date. The will to be probated gives the bulk of the property to Dudley Tibbets, the Rev. John B. Tibbets, and the estate of the late Gen. William Badger Tibbets. Mrs. John Wool Griswold, the testator's daughter, suffers by the provisions of this decument, and her husband will undoubtedly contest it. George M. Tibbets was the latter of Gen. Tibbets, deceased, who bequeathed a large sum for the establishment of a Soldiers' Home in this State. Yesterday afternoon the will was admitted to probate. The property is distributed wholly among the relatives, and it is a noticeable last that no bequests are made for charitable purposes. The chaptel in Hoosick, with the parsonage, sexton's house, and about twenty-flve acres of land, he devises to any three persons who within three years after his devease shall found and continue a free church in Hoosick. It is stipulated, however, that no prayer book must be used in the chapel except that of the Reiserned Episcopal Church. that a will bearing date of May 8, 1877, be

The Inwood Site and the Hotel Keepers.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Noticing the appeal of the Executive Committee of the World's Fair to the hotel keepers of New York to support the proposed selection of the Inwood site, I cannot, as a business man, see how they can expect appropriate forms that the hands of the hotel proprietors, who will tant site at the hands of the hotel proprietors, who will certainly be deprived thereby of business which they would have if a mearer and anywery say be the site were crossen, namely. Manhetans space and represent the streets and Riverside Pairs. The react from his creat West and South, arriving by the Leng tender and and other reads, undared stay and solvent for the streets and travel by the Leng binned and other reads, undared stay among hosts to the fair. What results? Why, the thousands of visiters have not sequent required to the way of the streets and pockets warn them to return by their sames boats to the fair what results? Why the thousands of whiters have not sequent required and pockets warn them to return by their sames boats to the fair who have the the chance of flading a bed in always crowded New York.

Irciand's Crists.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: The was ds that have lowered emineus r over Ireland ar shout to burst, surcharged with Linder and lightning feeland is steadily preparing interfer and physically, for a grint conflex with firsh land or to and the British theorems in prescribe in the case, tradity if she must. The gaze of bathe is thrown them before the firsh people. Lev. must severt, it, or do no cleans, and extend they must severt, it, or do no cleans, and servery. The latter are risk seven people, the control of the contro shout to burst, surcharged with thunder and lightning of the control of the

An Impending Gas War in Brooklyn.

Owing to the competition among the Brooklyn gas companies caused by the introduction of the Purcos Municipal Company's water was in the city, the subject ussion. The directors of the new company are opposed o consolidation, white those of the old companies are 1 to consultation, with the all the companies, at least for all the recompanies, at least for all the companies, at least for all with the exception of the new companies, free was large tweet the companies has been all the companies of a companies of the least to the properties. Pates Quino doed in the Lord Fland Congres Hospitalon flat appearance of the Lord Fland Congres Hospitalon Appearance flat the Fatign Monarcial Company probabilities in the grain assysting February State February Research and the process of halding the works, recovered and wall for proceed by the company. The competition has not so far delay of the company of the body of the company of the company of the process of halding the works, recovered and wall on pure of by the company. The competition has not so far delay of the grain appearance of the process of the companies form an almost a fixely war is expected.

Ontrages Upon an American in Ecuador.

PANAMA, Doc. 6. - The Star and Heraid says. An American, while passing the Saite bridge, in Porto-ticle, capital of the prevince of Manata, Reliador, was a rested by Elissa Nemendez, Chief or Police of the city He was searched for acceleracy documents, and, although none were found, he was not one a horse which was led by two soldiers, and carried to prise. Which was led by two soldiers, and carried to prise a the gain ordinary criminal. He was admed most a the gain the soldiers and imprisoned autitibe it showefully by the soldiers and imprisoned autitibe it showefully and, after idearing his tale, released he strior raw him premised to discharge the Chief. In the two-rine order amends. The Autifician a Police and make employment and the tion. The card or his life, left his he hands of the United Str. a case has been pieced in the hands of the United Str. at Consultationary and in

Two Marders by Two Indians.

8P , Louis, Dec. 16, -Advices from the Indian Ter ritory say that two full-blooded Indians went to the ouse of Russ McVeigh, in Kulania, on Tuesday, and after accepting the hospitalities of Mr. McVeigh, shot and killed him, and chopped a hired man named Barrett with an axe, inflicting mortal wounds.

IN HAVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DE-GENERATED?

statet's Reasons for Thinking that the

Republic is on its Last Legs. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Is it not an open question whether the people of these United States longer deserve what they will not much longer enjoy-the blessings of civil liberty?

When such a representative American as the grandson of Philip Schuyler and Alexander Hamilton, inheriting both their virtues and abilities, can, with clear conscience and without causing comment, put his stainless ancestry to shame by straining voice and purse and influence to sent in the chair of Washington and Lincoln a man who, shirking trial, has stood for seven years before the bar of the House of Representatives and of public opinion under indictment by his own party associates as a liar under oath-when a hero of two wars, whose blood has poured like water for that Union his ancestors had such great part in making, can believe it to be his solemn duty to repudiate his past record and approve by every political trick and device the noble and beloved comrade within whose arms his fainting body fell when grievously wounded at Resaca, be cause that comrade remains as loval now as then to the Federal Union for which both were fighting—when such a man tosses his ready cap in air to greet the "boss of the machine." and gayly transfers his allegiance from the old flag of the Union to the new rebel and revolutionary flag of the Nation, the patriotic optimist is compelled to ask himself whether civil liberty is, after all, for the best, and the political pessimist to mourn; for Schuyler Hamilton follows, not leads, the fashion, and is so lost in the ranks of the enemies of the Union, wherein he holds no command, that he would not have been noticed but for the accident of an ill-timed

The Second Union War is upon us, if ther The Second Union War is upon us, if there are any left who will fight for civil liberty, and that I doubt, for these reasons:

The people have lost their old love for the Constitution that makes the Union. In the national and private consteries lie the patriotic hearts who might have transmitted it to this generation. The men who denounced it in solemn party convention as "a covenant with death and a league with hell" have moulded the minds of the young men of the Northern States, and rendered easy by the Northern ballot what could not be done by the Southern builet. Does any one believe that the Constitution is still held in honor? Let him test the question and see.

held in honor? Let him test the question and see.

Since June 16 I have asked 100 intelligent men and leaders of public opinion—lawyers, doctors, clerrymen, professors, teachers—if they had ever read the Constitution. Ninety-one answered that they probably had, but that they did not remember its provisions; six had read it and had a general but not particular knowledge; two could misquote the preamble, but nothing else; and one, a teacher, could quote quite freely. But not one knew how many amendments there were; not one understood how electors were chosen or whom they represented; not one could answer the question, "Which is the higher law, the present treaty with China or an act of Congress forbidding its enforcement?" If not one in a hundred of college-bred men know or care for the Constitution, in what esteem is it among the missees?

But this is not the worst. This "league with

and of Congress forbidding its enforcement?" If not one in a hundred of college-bred men know or care for the Constitution, in what esteem is it among the masses?

But this is not the worst. This "league with death and covenant with hell" has been thrown out of our inferior courts, and sometimes out of our federal courts. Justice Jake Patterson was laughed at when he decided that the war settled the question whether a man who happened to hold a petty Federal office might commit highway robbers without liability of arrest by State authority, but the decision held good despite the laugh. Had Justice Patterson but known it. a Judge of the United States Circuit Court had heid the same doctrine eighteen months previously, when a servant in the family of a 48 Postmaster had been habeas corpused from a State court that was trying him for manslaughter, and released on the ground (1) that as an officer of the United States (Court, and (2) as the slaying of the man was no offence against the United States it did not matter whether he was guilty or not since there was no penalty that could be imposed. But this was in a Southern (though loyal) State, and must not becounted.

On election day, 1876, Judge Choate of the United States Circuit Court, sitting in this city, issued a number of mandamuses, directed to State election inspectors in different districts, commanding them to receive, east, and counted hay had the votes of men living in other States and residents of Territories who happened to be temporarily in New York on that day. And the votes of men living in other States of the Seventeenth Assembly District. This was a direct violation of the palmest and most absolute mandate of the Constitution—that provision reserving absolutely to each State that provision free from all interference by the people of other States or by the Federal Government. When Judge Choate's attention was called

ution could by any chance believe to be a part

that is not in it, that is diametrically opposed to every section that is in it, and which no person who had ever had a general idea of the Constitution could by any chance believe to be a part of it.

Let us charitably suppose that Mr. Hayes's long argument in favor of Federal control of suffrage is based upon a section he believed the Constitution to contain. His statement that it was there was only questioned by one man in this city, so far as the newspapers show. Nobody cared. The people took his word for it.

The poople have lost their old love for the truth. They don't care whether a statement is irue or faise. They accept it on authority. It is too much trouble to investigate. A Republican will swallow any ite about a Democrat, no matter how gross it may be. What is more remarkable, vast numbers of Democratis believe the most monstrous Republican yarns about themselves. Take, for instance, the Republican ite that 'the Republican party had about a sinuch to do with flighting the civil war as it had with flighting the Republican party had about as much to do with flighting the civil war as it had with flighting the French and Indian war. Of the three hundred distinguished Generals of the war for the Union, the Republican narty contributed one—Fremont. The Democratis of the war for the Union, the Republican in the range. McCleinan Hooker, Sizel, Slocum, Legan, Rearney, McCleinan Hoo

Procut Negotits. I think that if I had a farm,

I'm be a man of writer And if the day was bright and warm

I'd sit upon the times, And eatmir smoke a pensive pipe

And Wine shout my right And counsel l'Amoire qui dige.

And if the day was wet and cold, I think I should admire

To sit, and dawdie ever old Montaigne, before the fire; And pity booties who could lie And squabble just for pelf And thank my blessed stars that I

Was comfortable myself Some Sentiments of a l'aycho. Come out into the live to-day.

Festerday is exunct. To-morrow doesn't exist. The luture is linegination

BUNBEAMS.

-A knife with 191 blades was lately sent o the Prince of Wales on his birthday

-June 1, 1882, is the official date fixed upon for the inauguration of the St. Gothard to -A Methodist minister of Virden, DL.

won a bet of \$5, and presched a sermon detending it.

Out of a total of 133,000 railway employs es in Great Britain and Ireland 4,000 are either killed er

mjured every year.

The work of Improving the port of Genoa, based on the magnificent denation of the late Duke Galliera, is nearly completed.

-At the request of Thomas Hughes, Bishop Quintard of Tennessee will make the new Hard settlement his official and private home, and will build

-It has lately come to light that a disused yard in the Sorbonne has for some time been one of the chief resorts of Parisian reproduces, where they mightly planned the thefts of the morrow.

-Miss Smith, an English woman, was renested by the English authorities to leave Rou nested by the English authorities to leave Roulogue, in onsequence of the very violent language in which she dulated concerning the expulsion of the religious orders. —Levi Calkins desired to take a second

wife at Vernon, Wis, before his first wife had been dead amouth. He could induce no clergyman or justice to perform the ceremony, and so he did it himself, reading service in the presence of witnesses -A young girl left Dubuque for New Zon land over a year ago, on the summons of her award beart, who was to marry her on her arrival there. She has returned alone and unmarried. Finding the ma

evidently disappointed because she was not as handeone -One of the rules of the Court Theatre at Berlin prescribes singing in German only on its stage, Recently a famous Italian prima donna refused to sing at the theatre except in her native language, and tha managers laid the matter before Emperor William, who at once bluntly said: "Sie sol singen sets sie seil!!" (She shall starjust as she likes).

-The real or fancied resemblance of Louis Philippe's head to a pear was the discovery of Philipen one of the illustrators of the Charleser, and gave the Kim more real annoyance than the attack on his life. Go where he would, this unlucky print haunted him, and it was thought that the famous "laws of September" wer owing full as much to the pear as to Fieschi.

-A Denver merchant gave a dollar to a tramp who tottered bareforded into his office on a cold day. Going out immediately, he saw the beggar take good shoes and stockings from under the steps and put them on. He administered a whipping, and when sentenced to pay a fine of \$10, declared that he had never before bought as much pleasure for so little money.

—Mr. D. Whiting of Riverside, Cal., is en-

closing 1.500 acres of land with a stockade, and propose importing one hundred pairs of estriches from South Africa, worth from \$250 to \$500 a bird. Ostriches brees at tour years of age, and will produce four broods a year each averaging twenty chicks. At eight months the teathers of a bird become worth \$5, and as it grows older, attain a value of over \$100. It is said that it costs no more to keep an ostrich than a sleep.

-Wood cutting is very active this winter, in view of the great demand for lumber. It is expected that 100,000,000 more feet of logs will be obtained in the Chirpewa woods than ever before; the Maine cut will also be much larger; the lumbering business of the Lake fluron shore, of the Big and Lattle Manistee, and of the Chandiere, Ont., mills will be many millions of feet beyond previous periods. Numerous lumber and shingle factories are projected throughout Michigan.

—Maud Webb is one of the prettiest and

-- Status weed is one of the prettiest and wickedest girls in Cincinnati. She went to Bishop Eider, and in a broken voice told him that her dear mother-the only relative or friend she had in the world-was dead, and she had no money to pay for a decent burial. Thus lishop gave her an order for a come, and a letter authorizing her to use his name in getting contributions for the other expenses. The document and her modest minere enabled her to come normal accurate season. ner enabled her to open purses on every hand, and she got much money before her falsehood was exposed.

-The company which has been founded for taking preliminary steps to ascertain whether a + 10 marine tunnel can be made between Calais and Dover has at last succeeded in driving a shart down to to depth at which the tuonel, if practicable, would have to be made. Although in the upper strata there was a good deal of water, there is no infiltration of it in the gallery which is in the solid rock. A second shaft is about to !

driven, and the directors say that if no unforescen ob-stacle arises the tunnel might be completed in four years.

—A beautiful mirage was seen in Accomae County, Va., a few mornings ago. The sun rose behind a thick bank of log, which soon grew thinner until a few pale rays shot up above. In a single minute a won-derful transformation had taken place. Apparently not a quarter of a mile away lay the island of Chincoteague, rith its tiff, white tower, its dwellings, its trees, and shrubbery. A little boy was seen driving a flock of sheep along the shore, and even a little girl in the door o the lighthouse keeper's home fonding a doil. In another minute a second for bank rose and shut out the vision.

The island was distant thirty miles. -There is some talk in the salous of the Faubourg St. Germain or replacing the 4 o'clock tea by glasses of certer a Fern de vie or purch a la Chambord. The way to make this punch is as follows: Take, say, thre bottles of good champagne and both it. At the moment of ebullition add a little of Jamaica rum, cinnamon, vanila, cloves, and the rind of a lemon. When the whole has boiled up again, cover the pan hermetically and leav They say that with the aid of a glass of this cordist between each waitz a man who is free from rheumation

can dance seven hours in succession. -Elder Cannon, the Mormon delegate at Washington, says that the sole reliance of his church is in the Lerd, who will surely protect them against the proposed attack on polygamy. "Our wonderful deliver ances in the past," he adds, "notwithstanding number ess schemes to injure us, give our people immense confidence in the Almighty. I think it is the most remark able thing in the history of the past fifty years, the manner in which we have escaped oppressive laws, and the many schemes devised for our destruction. Ou folks throughout the entire Territory every night and morning pray carnestly and constantly, feeling that there is a clisis in our affairs. We are all prepared to

suffer any penalty rather than yield." -Heligoland is the most celebrated station in the world for studying the migration of birds. This little island is hardly a hundred acres in extent—on isolated, triangular rock of red sandstone, with perpen dicular cliffs two or three hundred feet in height all round it. It is mostly cultivated, and its resident brots are hardly more than a dozen species; but in spring and autumn migrating birds make it a restour place and these are watched for, and shot or trapped by simultine whole population, and the results have been carefully chronicied for the last twenty five years by Mr. Gatke, an experienced resident ornithologist. The amounty result is, that asimany species of biodeshave been obtained in this minute islet as in any country in Europe; while the vast number of the migrating flocks is shown by the fact that 15,000 lacks have sometimes

-Frenchmen do not in all cases look upon their period of minitary service as the fore instruct of their lives, but it is not often that concernity resort to such desperate means for avoiding it as a voiding main named Louis Lever, who recently joined the regiment into which he had been drafted at Compleme. Before leaving his native place he attempted to hang himse and having been baffled in that attempt by his father. tried to jump out at the train on his way to Compohis companions having great difficulty in history bird back. After he had been in barracks a few days he umped out of a second floor window, and was taken to the hospi al in a very alarming condition. When he was getting a little better he managed to get possession of a knife, and in the absence of the hospital attendant shobed himself to the heart and immediately expired.

-A somewhat angry discussion has lately taken pin e between the Eussian and German pages of to the employment of Germans in Russia. The ferror conver of Berlin asserts that the Germans are detested industry, and general conscient assess, they are formulable competities. The few homest officials able teachers in Russia are all Germans, smill that Russia ewes the little culture she possesses. To the Russian & Proceeding Gozette replice that there is autago is a between the Rossiaus and the Germans, that although counciaists are often made in the Ross newspapers and Bussian society of Germania, and carroganos, this is not caused by any har of therman sufficient. "No Russian objects to German's holding i for which they are qualified. But described ermans, whether they are at the head of private; cames or hold posts of authority in the Government rice, are always striving to obtain as the self of their own nationality, whether they are qui-

-Sidi Muley Hassan, the Sultan of Morece co has set a touching example of retrophysical for Treasury during his effects to suppose the resolution raged throughout his dominions and surface of the state expenses by some axe only in cot down the State expenses by some sacration of the lower mestic establishment to about one first of the strength. He dismissed at a blow. For this some stowing their hands upon distinguished officers of army, whose pay, in consideration of the block of conterred, he docked some five and twenty are in the strength of the strength o pleasing feature of this arrangement is the last that he Majerty kas made his matrimonal disport, me in an orthand all his older mointness have got new business while he has reserved the sources pleasure own hearth. Muley Hassan's popularity has been in creased to such an extent by this self-sacroce en a part that, a rew days ago, as he rode from the pair of the chief masque, he was greated with enthusiastic acro-G. F. T. | matten by the whole mate population of Yes, the capital